Message Text

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TAGS: PINR, EINV, OVIP

SUBJ: SUMMARY BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND

INDUSTRY DELFIN UGARTE CENTURION

REF: GRAHAM (ARA/ECA)/CARBONE TELECON OF 5/23

DELFIN UGARTE CENTURION, 52, HAS BEEN PARAGUAY'S MOST PERIPATETIC MINISTER SINCE HIS APPOINTMENT AS MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY ON AUGUST 15, 1973. HE HAS CHALKED UP VOYAGES TO JAPAN AND TAIWAN, A TRIP TO SIX COUNTRIES IN EUROPE IN THE SPRING OF 1976, AND COUNTLESS VISITS TO OTHER LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES, BOTH TO PROMOTE TRADE AND TO ATTEND BILATERAL AND REGIONAL CONFERENCES. HIS LAST TRIP WAS TO GUATEMALA TO ATTEND THE MAY 1977 ECLA CONFERENCE. AN ECONOMIST BY TRAINING, HE HAS WORKED IN A LOCAL BANK AND SERVED FIRST AS COUNSELOR AND THEN AS AMBASSADOR TO LAFTA BEFORE HIS CURRENT APPOINTMENT. THE MINISTER USUALLY DEALS PERSONALLY WITH FOREIGN BUSINESSMEN CONSIDERING IN-VESTMENTS IN PARAGUAY. BALDING, QUIET, SOFT SPOKEN, HE IS A GOOD BUSINESSMAN AND A CAPABLE TECHNOCRAT. HE IS ALSO AMBITIOUS, AND REPORTEDLY HAS HIS EYE ON THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE. HE SPEAKS ONLY A FEW WORDS OF ENGLISH, BUT IS FLUENT IN PORTUGESE. THIS IS THE MINISTER'S FIRST TRIP TO THE UNITED STATES AND HE IS SOMEWHAT NERVOUS. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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LAST BIO REPORT ON UGARTE WAS SUBMITTED IN EMBASSY'S A-84 OF AUGUST 20, 1973. LANDAU

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Subject: SUMMARY BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION ON MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY DELFIN UGARTE CENTURION

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